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## Main Street Community Foundation awards over \$160,000 to 50 organizations in the greater Bristol area

**TOPICS:** Grants Main Street Community Foundation



Recipients from this year's Main Street Community Foundation scholarships number 194, with \$360,000 in awards. | MSCF

**POSTED BY:** DAVID FORTIER AUGUST 6, 2025

The Bristol Edition is among the 50 grant recipients from Main Street Community Foundation's 2025 general grant cycle, according to a Main Street

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The \$2025 grant will be used for a news media youth podcast project where high school students interview and capture stories from Bristol residents, events and their respective schools and create podcasts for publication. The grant was made possible from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund.

Other Bristol area grantees include the following:

- **Boys & Girls Club of Bristol** – \$5,000 – *Young Men of Purpose* program, a mentoring initiative for ages 10-18 to help develop the tools needed to succeed in adulthood (*Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund, Dumont Family Charitable Fund*)
- **Bristol Adult Resource Center, Inc.** – \$3,500 – Procurement of a commercial lawn mower for the *Yard Service* program in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville and Terryville (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Angela and Al Caruso Family Charitable Fund*)
- **Bristol Brass & Wind Ensemble** – \$2,500 – Free concerts and community outreach performances to benefit the Bristol community (*Jim & Eleanor Frawley Community Fund, Gnazzo/Reidy Charitable Fund, Edward W. and Audrey K. Mink Memorial Fund*)
- **Bristol Child Development Center** – \$2,500 – Financial assistance for 5-11 year-olds to attend Summer Camp 2025 (*Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education, Bristol Brass General Grant Fund*)
- **Bristol Historical Society** – \$750 – *History is All Around Us* walking tour of the historic cemeteries and a historical scavenger hunt (*Jim & Eleanor Frawley Community Fund*)
- **Bristol Little League** – \$5,500 – New hood for concession area to enable food sales and maintain health department standards (*Malerbo Children's Field Maintenance Fund*)
- **Bristol Works Inc.** – \$5,000 – *Workforce Readiness Services* program: free or low-cost, one-to-one services to residents in the Foundation's service area (*Wally Barnes Fund for Community Leadership Initiatives, Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education*)
- **Bristol Youth Football and Cheer** – \$2,060 – Critical upgrades and enhancements to Youth Athletic Fields (*Malerbo Children's Field Maintenance Fund*)
- **Gloria Dei Lutheran Church** – \$3,090 – Food & Diaper Distribution program serving families with children and senior citizens experiencing food insecurity (*Ciccarelli-Vitale Community Advancement Fund*)
- **Grace Baptist Church** – \$4,000 – Purchase fresh food items including meat and produce for *Grace Pantry* program (*Edward W. and Audrey K. Mink Memorial Fund, Jaspersohn Family Memorial Fund*)
- **Human Resources Agency (HRA) of New Britain, Inc.** – \$4,000 – Expansion of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program serving low-income residents of Bristol, Plainville, Plymouth, and Southington (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Becker Family Fund*)
- **Imagine Nation, A Museum Early Learning Center** – \$4,000 – Updates to the light and reflection enhancement studio needed for educational learning (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Ronald F. & Emilie P. Duhaime*)



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*General Grant Fund, JoAnn & David Mills Family Fund)*

- **Literacy Volunteers of Central CT** – \$2,500 – *Greater Bristol Literacy Project* for low and moderate-income residents of Bristol, Burlington and Plainville (*Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education*)
- **Memorial Military Museum** – \$1,000 – *The Year of the Woman* exhibit honoring the WWII letter writing campaign of Lillian O’Connell (secretary of the Wallace Barnes Co.) and other women who contributed to local and national military heritage (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Nana Jane’s Fund*)
- **New England Auto & Transportation Museum Inc.** – \$1,200 – Annual Summer Car Show in Bristol (*Karen and Kim Murphy Family Charitable Fund, Jay & Elizabeth Tyrrell Fund for the Arts*)
- **Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra** – \$5,885 – Educational Children’s Concerts in schools throughout the Foundation’s service area (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, James R. Parker Trust*)
- **Shepard Meadows Equestrian Center, Inc.** – \$5,000 – Equine expenses related to herd of therapy horses (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Terry & Marguerite Fletcher Family Fund*)
- **St. Vincent De Paul Mission of Bristol, Inc.** – \$5,860 – General client support for the Emergency shelter (*Smith Family Charitable Fund*)
- **The Bristol Edition** – \$2,025 – *News Media Youth Podcast* project for teen students to interview and capture stories from Bristol residents, events and their respective schools (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund*)
- **The Bristol Farmers Market, Inc.** – \$1,870 – SNAP Benefit Coordinator to assist with managing the SNAP benefits process at the market each week (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Tedesco-Gallant Charitable Fund*)
- **The Children’s Museum** – \$2,000 – *Science Achievement for All (SAFA)* program for students in Bristol Public Schools (*Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education*)
- **The Salvation Army** – \$5,000 – *Creative Arts and Music (CAM) Academy* for Bristol youth (*Pat & Bob Wollenberg Family Fund for the Community, Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund*)
- **United Way of West Central CT** – \$5,000 – *Cultivating Community Youth Leaders – Kids in the Middle (KIM)* program to empower youth to take meaningful action in their communities (*Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund*)
- **Veterans Strong Community Center** – \$5,000 – Operating support to conduct outreach and case management services for veterans in the Foundation’s service area (*Gnazzo/Reidy Charitable Fund, Bristol Brass General Grant Fund*)
- **Wheeler Clinic** – \$5,000 – *ACCESS Mental Health Program* providing free consultation to primary care physicians and individual support to youth and their families awaiting treatment (*Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Calvanese Foundation Green & White Fund for Behavioral Health*).

To view all grants awarded in this cycle, visit

[www.mainstreetfoundation.org/2025generalgrants](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org/2025generalgrants).

of residents in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington or Wolcott.

Since its establishment in 1995, MSCF has awarded grants and scholarships totaling over \$32.7 million and is one of the leading grant makers in the Central Connecticut region.

These specific grants are distributed from over 30 endowed funds, all of which were established by donors to support causes they are passionate about, from arts and culture to food and housing, and mental health and wellbeing, according to the release.

Applications for the General Grant Cycle are submitted once a year in the spring and are thoughtfully reviewed by over 25 local residents that volunteer on the Distribution Committee.

The committee not only reviews all proposals, but also conducts site visits, and makes the final funding recommendations to the Foundation's Board of Directors.

This annual process ensures that the goals and programs of the grantees are feasible and align with the donor's intent.

To learn more about the Main Street Community Foundation, visit [www.mainstreetfoundation.org](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org).

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